

Mr. Speaker, 65 years ago the Ukrainian people were suffering from an horrific man-made catastrophe. It is a testament to their strength as a people that today's Ukraine is progressing with democratic and economic reforms, and is one of our strongest allies in the region.

I am proud to stand in support of H. Con. Res. 295, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important resolution.

Mr. GILMAN. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. EMERSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 295.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES REGARDING THE TERRORIST BOMBING OF THE UNITED STATES EMBASSIES IN EAST AFRICA

Mr. GILMAN. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H.Res. 523) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the terrorist bombing of the United States embassies in East Africa, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 523

Whereas on August 7, 1998, 254 people, 12 of whom were United States citizens, were killed when a bomb exploded at the United States Embassy in Nairobi, Kenya, and 9 people were killed when a bomb exploded at the United States Embassy in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania;

Whereas these bombs were detonated minutes apart and were clearly coordinated;

Whereas in both cases trucks, driven by suicidal terrorists and loaded with explosives, approached the embassies but were diverted from attacking their primary targets by quick thinking Embassy security staff;

Whereas the bombs did explode, injuring thousands of innocent civilians and destroying millions of dollars worth of local property;

Whereas the Governments of Israel and France immediately sent search and rescue teams to aid in the aftermath of the bombings;

Whereas on August 7, 1998, Pakistani police arrested suspect Muhammad Sadiq Odeh, who confessed to being part of a team which was orchestrated and financed by Osama bin Laden; and

Whereas Osama bin Laden, an exiled Saudi Arabian businessman who is believed to be currently living in Afghanistan, is a known sponsor of international terrorism against secular Middle Eastern regimes and has publicly stated his support for attacks against American influence, Americans, and American targets: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) expresses the deep condolences of the House of Representatives and the American people to the families of all persons killed or injured in the bombing;

(2) expresses our dismay for the mayhem and destruction visited upon the Governments and people of Kenya and Tanzania;

(3) expresses gratitude to the people and the Governments of Kenya and Tanzania for their assistance to the people and the property of the United States in the aftermath of the bombings;

(4) expresses our gratitude to the United States Embassy guards whose quick thinking and heroic actions prevented even more deaths and injuries;

(5) expresses our gratitude to the people and the Governments of Israel, France, the United Kingdom, Germany, Japan, Australia, and South Africa, as well as the many private organizations which volunteered to assist the United States in the aftermath of the bombings;

(6) expresses our gratitude to United States personnel for their dedication in serving abroad and promoting United States interests and courageously assuming the risks of living and working overseas;

(7) expresses our gratitude to United States Federal and local agencies which assisted in the aftermath of the bombings;

(8) expresses our condemnation of all persons and parties involved in the outrageous and illegal attacks which resulted in the tragic loss of life of so many Americans, Kenyans, Tanzanians, and others;

(9) expresses the determination of the House of Representatives to assist, in any way possible, in the arrest of all persons responsible for these attacks; and

(10) expresses the intention of the House of Representatives to examine whether security needs of United States facilities overseas are being met and what kinds of tools can be employed to discourage nations from harboring terrorists.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GILMAN. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 days in which to revise and extend their remarks on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. GILMAN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. GILMAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GILMAN. Madam Speaker, I commend the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS), a member of our committee, for submitting this resolution to express our condolences to the families of the victims of that terrible bombing of two of our embassies in Africa. August 7 was a tragic day in this country's history and in their history. Many innocent people were injured or lost their lives because of senseless, cowardly acts of terrorists.

We are grateful to the many friends who responded to our Nation, who responded immediately with assistance, the Israelis, the French, the Britons, the Germans, the Japanese and the Australians. Terrorism is a global

problem, and we must stand united with our international partners to dismantle organizations which seek only to terrorize our civil societies.

I fully support the resolution of the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS), and I urge full support of the House.

I want to thank the original sponsors of this resolution—who are my colleagues—fellow members in the Ukraine Caucus here in the Congress—for their work to bring this measure to the floor today.

Those original sponsors are: the gentleman from Michigan, Mr. LEVIN, the gentleman from Pennsylvania, a member of our International Relations Committee, the gentlelady from Ohio, Ms. KAPTUR, the gentleman from Colorado, Mr. BOB SCHAEFFER, and the gentlelady from New York, Ms. SLAUGHTER.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased that we have the opportunity to consider this very important piece of legislation today, and I thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) and the members of the Committee on International Relations, as well as our other colleagues, for their expediting of this piece of legislation.

Like us all, I shared the shock, sorrow and outrage of the entire Nation when I learned of the bombings of the U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania.

Madam Speaker, like so many of us, people lost family and personal friends. I would ask the personal prerogative to do, as I am sure many Members could and likely did in their appropriate memorials in the RECORD, but a 40-year friend of mine, Jean DeLiza, was killed in the embassy bombing in Kenya. As sort of an extended family, her mother Rose, her sister Joyce, her children, Laurie and others, and her siblings and all of us were stunned.

As a member of this committee, I have had the opportunity to visit many of our embassies, and a lot of them I have visited with the chairman of this committee, who has worked exceedingly diligently internationally and nationally to bring to the attention of this body and the world the needs of a stable and peaceful world.

Our embassy workers do more than process visas. They promote investment in the United States, they facilitate the selling of American products overseas, and they assist Americans who are lost or who have lost their money or passports or are imprisoned in foreign countries. To murder these public servants because one has a grudge against the United States is ludicrous and pathetic. The thought that one can settle a vendetta against the United States or the West by planting a bomb in Africa would be laughable were it not for the loss of Americans' lives and others in Kenya and Tanzania.

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The governments, many that the chairman mentioned, the NGOs and

courageous individuals whom we must thank for their assistance in the aftermath of the bombing are too numerous to mention at this time.

First of all, the governments and the people of Kenya and Tanzania were instrumental in saving lives and property. The street demonstrations held in support of the United States by the peoples of Kenya and Tanzania were noted, and they are to be recognized as being deeply appreciated in this country.

The quick thinking of the United States Embassy guards, many of them locals, was instrumental in preventing even more death and destruction. The people of the governments of Israel, France, the United Kingdom, Germany, Japan, Australia and others provided vital assistance for which all Americans are extremely grateful.

Numerous United States Federal and local agencies gathered quickly on the sites, and their outstanding work in securing the scenes paved the way for superlative investigative work which has already led to some arrests in these cases.

This resolution expresses the intention of the House to examine whether the security needs of United States facilities overseas are being met. This issue is particularly relevant to the work that we do under the guidance and leadership of the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) in this committee.

We must examine all of our facilities overseas and where weaknesses exist, reinforce those facilities. We must support this administration and the next administration in building alliances with like-minded friends to ensure that terrorists who wish to harm the United States are eliminated.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GILMAN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I want to commend the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS) for the resolution, for his eloquent remarks in support of it.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH), our distinguished chairman of the Subcommittee on International Operations and Human Rights.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS) for introducing this legislation and for giving us this opportunity as a body, Democrats and Republicans, to express our condolences not just to the American families but also to those in Kenya and Tanzania who lost loved ones or had loved ones hurt very severely, and also to thank the countries of Kenya and Tanzania for the cooperation they have given in trying to apprehend these cowardly terrorists.

Let me also remind the body that within hours of that horrific act, the gentleman from New York (Mr. GIL-

MAN), chairman of the Committee on International Relations, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), who is the ranking member on the Helsinki Commission, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) and I convened a press conference on the grassy triangle. The gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS) and others were all very supportive of that.

We made it clear that no terrorist should take any solace in any bickering that they may see going on in the Capitol of Washington; that whatever the President's problems may be, we are united in our fight against terrorism; that we will stand shoulder-to-shoulder in trying to apprehend terrorists; and that when you pick on Americans, when you go after Americans, we are absolutely united.

I think that message is coming across. This resolution will help. I want to commend the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS) for bringing us this important resolution.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I would like to echo and associate myself with the remarks of the distinguished gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH).

Madam Speaker, I have no more speakers, and I yield back the rest of our time.

Mr. GILMAN. Madam Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) for his very forceful remarks in support of the resolution.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness, that we all recall the day early this past August when several American officials were killed and injured when terrorist planted bombs exploded at the U.S. embassies in Nairobi and in Tanzania.

These bombs sent powerful explosions throughout U.S. embassy buildings in Nairobi and Dar-es-Salaam, causing significant damage to both buildings, and resulting in the death and wounding of numerous individuals.

These bombings were violent and cowardly acts that preyed on innocent people. As a member of this Congress, we must not tolerate this violence! These bombings were a sobering reminder that violence can occur even in parts of the world where you would least expect it. We must continue to deliberate over what actions to take, both to step up security at other US installations and embassies around the world and to see what help we can give to the Kenyan and Tanzanian authorities in their investigation of the two blasts. These bombings were devastating to all of us here in Congress.

The last major attack against a U.S. facility abroad was in June 1996, when a car bomb devastated a military housing complex near Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, killing 19 Americans. The culprits are not known to have been found. In this last attack, the U.S. worked with local officials in both countries to rapidly move medical, engineering, security and other support personnel and equipment from U.S. facilities inside and outside the region to both locations.

In addition, the U.S. has taken appropriate security measures at our embassies and military facilities throughout the region and around the world. Along with the President we must

pledge to use all the means at our disposal to bring those responsible to justice, no matter what or how long it takes. As a member of Congress, I believe the United States should do everything it can to assure that American citizens serve in safety. The families and the loved ones of the American and African victims of these cowardly attacks will of course remain in our thoughts and prayers, and we must continue to express our outrage at the devastation caused by these terrorist acts.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. EMERSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 523, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION ACT OF 1998

Mr. COBLE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 3528) to amend title 28, United States Code, with respect to the use of alternative dispute resolution processes in United States district courts, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

Senate amendments:

Page 2, after line 3, insert:

"SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND DECLARATION OF POLICY.

"Congress finds that—

"(1) alternative dispute resolution, when supported by the bench and bar, and utilizing properly trained neutrals in a program adequately administered by the court, has the potential to provide a variety of benefits, including greater satisfaction of the parties, innovative methods of resolving disputes, and greater efficiency in achieving settlements;

"(2) certain forms of alternative dispute resolution, including mediation, early neutral evaluation, minitrials, and voluntary arbitration, may have potential to reduce the large backlog of cases now pending in some federal courts throughout the United States, thereby allowing the courts to process their remaining cases more efficiently; and

"(3) the continued growth of Federal appellate court-annexed mediation programs suggests that this form of alternative dispute resolution can be equally effective in resolving disputes in the federal trial courts; therefore, the district courts should consider including mediation in their local alternative dispute resolution programs."

Page 2, line 4, strike out "**SEC. 2**" and insert: "**SEC. 3**"

Page 2, line 21, strike out "(2071(b))" and insert: "(2071(a))"

Page 3, line 1, strike out "(2071(b))" and insert: "(2071(a))"

Page 4, line 5, strike out "**SEC. 3**" and insert: "**SEC. 4**"

Page 4, line 13, strike out "(2071(b))" and insert: "(2071(a))"

Page 5, line 18, strike out "(2071(b))" and insert: "(2071(a))"

Page 5, line 22, strike out "**SEC. 4**" and insert: "**SEC. 5**"